

Ladies and Gentlemen of ECCC:

If you are viewing this letter you should currently hold a Reserved or Wait status in ATRRS for the Engineer Captain's Career Course. If you currently have an RFO, but do not have a slot in ATRRS, please contact Mr. William Bell at HRC (502-613-6024) and myself.

My name is CPT Brad D'Angelo and I am the commander for C Co., 554th EN BN, to whom you will be assigned upon your reception at Fort Leonard Wood. Prior to your arrival I wanted to take a minute to send you some information about requirements and standards of the course and what you can expect during your time here.

REPORTING:

Please note your ATRRS report date. This is a date that is dictated by ATRRS, which only reflects course content dates and not dates required to in-process post. As this course predicates a PCS move, we ask that you arrive ten days early (ex: report on 1 July if your ATRRS report date is 10 July) so that we can give you ten days to find a home, receive household goods, in-process post and get yourself and your family settled into the community. In-briefs begin on the Wednesday prior to the course start. Your course start date should be reflected in ATRRS. For Active Duty and AGR personnel you are required to be signed in by COB ten days prior to your ATRRS report date (early reporting is authorized). Reporting late can only be authorized, via waiver, by the Battalion Commander. For NG/USAR individuals, we understand that your state and orders issuing authority follow ATRRS guidance. We ask that you talk to your orders issuing authority about a possible amendment to allow you to report earlier so that you can properly PCS to Ft. Leonard Wood and get settled in – otherwise you will be missing valuable classroom instruction within the first week in order to finish in-processing post and getting settled. Just like your Active Duty/AGR counterparts you will be required to secure your own housing on or off post. Please remember that for all NG/USAR individuals this is a PCS move; you will not be in TDY status.

For those of you who have not yet found a place to live in the area, please view what is available on www.ahrn.com, as well as checking with the FLW Housing office, <http://www.ftlwoodfamilyhousing.com/defaultFamily.aspx?cid=11>

RECORDS:

Please review your ORB and iPerms prior to arriving to the ECCC. If you have the time prior to your arrival, square your record away with your current S1. If this isn't possible you can make an appointment to get it updated with the 554th EN BN S1 once you arrive and in-process post. This is important as all Active Duty officers will be required to turn in a copy of their updated ORB (with picture) to me during the in-briefing process. This is critical as HRC will be utilizing your ORB and iPerms to assist in their determination of your follow-on assignments.

COOPERATIVE DEGREE PROGRAM:

Yes we are offering the cooperative degree program with ECCC. Briefings from Missouri University of Science & Technology (formerly UMR) and Webster University will be given during the in-briefs, beginning the Wednesday before the start of ECCC. Courses will begin during the ECCC (offered at night and some weekends), with the primary portion of the graduate program being completed post-ECCC with a follow-on of roughly 6 months on-station to complete the degree. Current guidance from branch is that they will make all reasonable efforts to allow this to continue and allow you to finish the CDP. However, please be aware that meeting all Army standards are a pre-requisite for admission into the programs: NO HEIGHT/WEIGHT FAILURES, NO APFT FAILURES, NO ACADEMIC PROBATION. If the follow-

on CDP timeline exceeds when you are due to your next duty station, branch will work with you to amend your orders or arrange a way to complete the degree via distance learning, etc.

If you chose to participate in the CDP you will be required to sign a contract on a 4187, which will clearly outline the additional duty service obligation you owe by participating in the CDP.

PLEASE BE AWARE: the CDP runs consecutive to any original service obligation received upon graduation/completion from your commissioning source; and runs concurrent to any ADSO taken after such time.

Examples:

- 1) CPT Smith, a West Point graduate, was commissioned May 27, 2006. His original service obligation expires five years later in May of 2011. CPT Smith arrives to the ECCC in July of 2009 and decides to participate in the CDP with Webster University. Upon his graduation from ECCC 4-09 in December he stays on until May of 2010 to finish his Masters in Public Administration. When he graduates from Websters he receives a DD 1059-1 from the university that specifies the dates he was in a student status at a civilian university (roughly 140 days, plus or minus). For each day he was in this status, as outlined on the 1059-1, he owes back three days to the Army (3:1). Because CPT Smith's original service obligation expires on May 27, 2011, the additional time he has incurred in the CDP will not start running until May 28, 2011.

- 2) CPT Jones is a 2004 OCS graduate. His original service obligation expired in 2008, which was the same year he decided to take the \$25,000.00 menu of incentives bonus. In taking the bonus he signed a contract keeping him on until 2011. When CPT Jones arrives to ECCC 4-09 he decides he wants to participate in the CDP with MS&T to get his Masters in Engineering Management. He decides to utilize tuition assistance to pay for the majority of the cost of the degree. When he graduates from MS&T he receives a DD 1059-1 from the university that specifies he was in a student status at a civilian university for 140 days. For each day he was in this status, he owes back three days to the Army (3:1). Because CPT Jones' original service obligation expired already, the additional time he has incurred in the CDP will run concurrent with the tuition assistance ADSO and menu of incentives ADSO (which run concurrent with one another, as well).

SLOTING:

Currently there are 64 slots authorized for ECCC. If you are in the handful of people that get deferred, you will be assured a seat in the next ECCC course offered. The next block will discuss options that are available to those in this situation.

SNOWBIRDING / EBOLC SGL:

If you are deferred to the next course due to overbooking we will work with various agencies on-post to accommodate your desires while waiting. We want you to get the most out of your time while here at FLW. If you would like to further your Army education while here there are various schools which we can work towards enrolling you in. The Counter Explosive Hazardous Center (CEHC) offers a variety of courses from EOCA to R2C2 to ITS which we can work toward enrolling you in, as well as certain search courses offered by the MP Schoolhouse. Many have asked me about SAPPER school. At the time you are arriving deferrals will cycle through the summer months, please note that all ROTC/West Point cadets will have priority and slot numbers are slimmer in the spring/summer months. We can always get you into a Wait status through ATRRS and try to get you into the course as a walk-on on start day, but you must have completed a train-up, validated by a signed memorandum from your current Battalion Commander stating: you were tested on CWST/26 Sapper Tasks/5 Mile Run/12 Mile Ruck March/APFT/Ranger Training Guidelines. This is a pre-requisite for the course. Please do not assume that we can just get you into SAPPER school. Understand that there is an OML, and precedence on the wait list goes to Lieutenants going/assigned to a Sapper unit, and those coming from off-post units.

If schools are not what you desire, in the interim we can assign you to a directorate here on the installation (USACE, CDID, CEHC, MDOT, USAES, etc.) or place you in one of the battalions within the 1st EN BDE, where you will most likely be utilized as a SPO/A-S3.

If you are interested in deferring for a longer period of time (12-18 months) there is an opportunity to become a small group leader for the officer basic course. This is a great opportunity for those of you who may be coming directly off of a MiTT team or redeployment and are looking to have some quality time with your family in a stable location. Candidates should be interested in the mentorship and leader development of Second Lieutenants and willing to take this responsibility, understanding there will be some long days and field time required. If you are interested in becoming an SGL for the basic course, please contact the company commander.

CONTRACTING OFFICER REPRESENTATIVE (COR) ACCREDITATION:

Prior to your completion of the course you are required to sign on to the Defense Acquisition University <http://www.dau.mil>, create an account, and register for the following courses: CLC106, CLM024, CLC011 and CLM003.

You MUST complete these courses prior to graduation in order to meet the Contracting Officer Representative (COR) requirement. If you sign up now you can complete these prior to the start of the course (or at least get a head start on them).

Tina Utt, the training technician for the USAES Department of Instruction, will cover this information with you in more detail during your in-briefing.

HEIGHT/WEIGHT:

Meeting height/weight standards is something as officers that we should all strive to accomplish. In previous years if you did not pass the initial weigh-in you were dis-enrolled from the course, however the newest guidance from TRADOC revokes this criterion and allows you to begin the course having failed to meet the standard, with a few caveats. If you fail to meet height/weight standards during the initial weigh-in you will maintain your enrollment in the course, but you will be flagged (no weekend passes) and enrolled into the Army Weight Control Program (AWCP). You will have the duration of the course to meet the standard. At any time after being flagged you may come in for a re-test (please get with 1SG Woods to schedule). Once the standard is met the flag will be lifted. One month prior to graduation we will conduct a final weigh-in for the entire class. If you met the standard during the initial weigh-in, but then fail to meet the standard at the end of the course, you will be flagged and enrolled into the AWCP, and your follow-on unit will deal with your situation. If a student remains on AWCP during the entirety of the ECCC they will graduate but will immediately be processed for elimination IAW AR 600-8-24 paragraph 4-2-a-9 if standard is not met within 30 days of graduation.

Additionally, the following (taken directly from ALARACT 120/2008) will apply:

Soldiers who meet academic course requirements, but fail body fat composition standards, will be considered an academic course graduate and receive a DA Form 1059 with item 11 marked "Marginally achieved course standards," and item 14 containing the statement "Soldier met academic requirements, but failed to meet body composition standards IAW AR 600-9 during this course."

APFT:

It is a TRADOC requirement to take a record APFT during the course. Alternate event profiles are authorized. However, if you are on profile, cannot take an alternate event, and will not come off of the profile during the course, you will not be admitted into the course per AR 350-1 standards.

Passing the APFT is not a graduation requirement; however the same standards pertaining to Height/Weight apply to the APFT. If you fail to meet APFT standards during the initial test, you will be enrolled in the course and flagged. You may take an APFT at any time during the duration of the course in order to get your flag lifted (please get with 1SG Woods to schedule). Additionally, a final APFT will be given one month out of graduation. If you do not pass the second APFT, you will still complete the academic requirements for the course, but will immediately be processed for elimination IAW AR 600-8-24 paragraph 4-2-a-10 if standard is not met within 30 days of graduation.

Additionally, the following (taken directly from ALARACT 120/2008) will apply:

Soldiers who meet academic course requirements, but fail APFT standards, will be considered an academic course graduate and receive a DA Form 1059 with item 11 marked "Marginally achieved course standards," and item 14 containing the statement "Soldier met academic requirements, but failed to meet APFT standards IAW AR 350-1 during this course."

CAC CARDS:

Please ensure your CAC card is updated and can be utilized to log on to your AKO. You will need your cards to gain access to FLW computers; necessary for portions of your training.

COMPUTER ACCOUNTS:

You will be required to get a FLW computer account. To do so you will need to take an online computer course and print out the certificate within the last year. You need to take the DoD IA Awareness training. The following is the link to the training site: <https://ia.gordon.army.mil/dodiaa/default.asp>

Please ensure that the ISO in your current unit deletes you from their email system at least two weeks out or we will not be able to add you. Please have this done prior to arrival.

SECURITY CLEARANCES:

Please ensure you check the status of your SECRET/TOP SECRET security clearance prior to arrival at FLW. Make sure that it's not going to expire just prior to or during your stay here. We have recently incorporated some new, classified training into the ECCC, and we had a HUGE problem with a handful of students whose clearances were just expired or getting ready to expire. If your clearance is about to expire please be proactive and initiate the steps to be granted an interim clearance through your S2 before departing your current unit.

FAMILY CARE PLAN:

If you have children and are dual military or a single/divorced parent with primary custody of your child/children and do not already have a FCP, please let us know when you in-process with the company. We are here to assist you in any way we can. All we'll need to do is sit down for a few minutes, conduct the counseling required by the packet, and get appropriate signatures/notaries on the documents in order to get you and your family properly situated.

MEDICAL ISSUES:

If, while on station, a medical issue arises which requires you to have surgery and forces you to take more than three days of convalescent leave (loss of time from duty), you will be medically dropped from the course. If you are Active Duty and fall into this category we can snowbird you while you get fixed and put you into a later course. If you are National Guard or Reserve and fall into this category you will be medically dropped and sent back to your state.

OTHER INFO:

Please fill out the data sheet and return via email to jackie.williams@us.army.mil (minus SSN – which we will get from you once you arrive). Please note that thumb drives do not work on the networked computers at this installation, so if you decide to bring the data sheet with you when you in-process it will need to be on a disc.

If you have any questions or concerns that were not clearly noted in this letter, please feel free to call myself or 1SG Woods at 573-596-0800. For USAR and ARNG officers with more detailed questions, please feel free to call the company, or COL Walter (USAR DAC): 573-563-8045 or LTC Mismash (ARNG DAC): 573-563-8046.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Thank you,

CPT Brad M. D'Angelo
brad.dangelo@us.army.mil